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STATE OF CONNECTICUT

OFFICE OF POLICY AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

TO:

Katie S. Dykes, Commissioner

Connecticut Department of Energy & Environmental Protection

FROM:

Jeffrey R. Beckham, Secretary

Office of Policy and Management

DATE:

July 6, 2022

SUBJECT:

Environmental Impact Evaluation and Record of Decision (EIE/ROD) for

the Ox Brook Flood Control Master Plan

Based on a review of the subject Environmental Impact Evaluation and Record of Decision conducted pursuant to C.G.S. Section 22a-1e, I am herewith advising you of my finding that this document satisfies the requirements of the Connecticut Environmental Policy Act (CEPA).

I understand that there is not a clear timeline for the funding or implementation of later phases of the project and DEEP anticipates it might take decades to complete the currently expected phases. RCSA Sec. 22a-1a-8(c) states the following about EIEs for state actions involving a sequence of activities:

Such an environmental impact evaluation shall cover future component actions of a program or sequence of activities provided that there is no substantive change in the action's environmental setting, environmental impacts or alternatives which would merit a revision to the environmental impact evaluation. When there is a substantive change in the action's environmental setting, environmental impacts or alternatives that is not adequately discussed in the initial environmental impact evaluation, a new or revised environmental impact evaluation shall be prepared by the sponsoring agency to address those substantive changes.

It will be DEEP's responsibility to determine if and when future changes warrant a new or revised EIE, but please feel free to consult with OPM at any time regarding this. The state might find that changing fiscal, environmental, or other circumstances increasingly alter the course of projects once started, even as such circumstances increase the frequency of long-duration projects. OPM looks forward to the insights of DEEP and others as the state navigates the increasingly uncertain future.

Please contact Bruce Wittchen (860-418-6323) if there are any questions regarding this finding.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey R. Beckham, OPM Secretary

cc: Martin Heft, OPM

Greg Messner, OPM Fred Riese, DEEP Chuck Lee, DEEP Paul Aresta, CEQ